

- III. Claims 17-20, drawn to the preparation of a protein hydrolysate, classified in class 435, subclass 68.1.
- IV. Claims 21-27, drawn to a method of preserving mucosa, classified in class 435, subclass 1.1.
- V. Claims 28-32, drawn to preserved mucosa, classified in class 435, subclass 1.1.
- VI. Claim 33, drawn to a heparin/peptone hydrolysate, classified in class 424, subclass 543.
- VII. Claim 34, drawn to a peptone hydrolysate, classified in class 424, subclass 520.
- VIII. Claim 35, drawn to a protein hydrolysate, classified in class 424, subclass 520.

In response to this restriction requirement, Applicants elect the invention of Group IV, in which the Examiner has placed claims 21-27, for prosecution in the above-identified application, without traverse.

CONCLUSION

As noted above, Applicants have elected the Group IV invention, which includes claims 21-27, for prosecution in the above-identified application. Claims 21-27 are each believed allowable. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request consideration and allowance of claims 21-27. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' below-named attorney to discuss any aspect of the above-identified application and facilitate allowance of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

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